

"If a tree falls in the forest and there is no one there to hear it, does it make a sound?" Greater concentration of media control will make it more likely that news coverage will be limited to fewer "forests." Over the past few years, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain broad, objective and varied news and views, especially from television. This is ironic, given the presence of so many channels, and the emphasis on globalization. Our family has turned to the Internet and short-wave radio, to reach balanced coverage of news events throughout the U.S. and world. A not uncommon response to a news story is "Why didn't they cover that on our networks? Why wasn't that story on the front page of the newspaper, or even in the newspaper at all?" To be an informed public, we need independent sources of news coverage, free of growing influence and limitations of corporate ownership. The question must be answered honestly--Is the ultimate goal of the FCC to foster a well-informed citizenry, or is it something else?

Sincerely,  
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